



# An Update on Proxy System Modeling and Model-Data Comparison

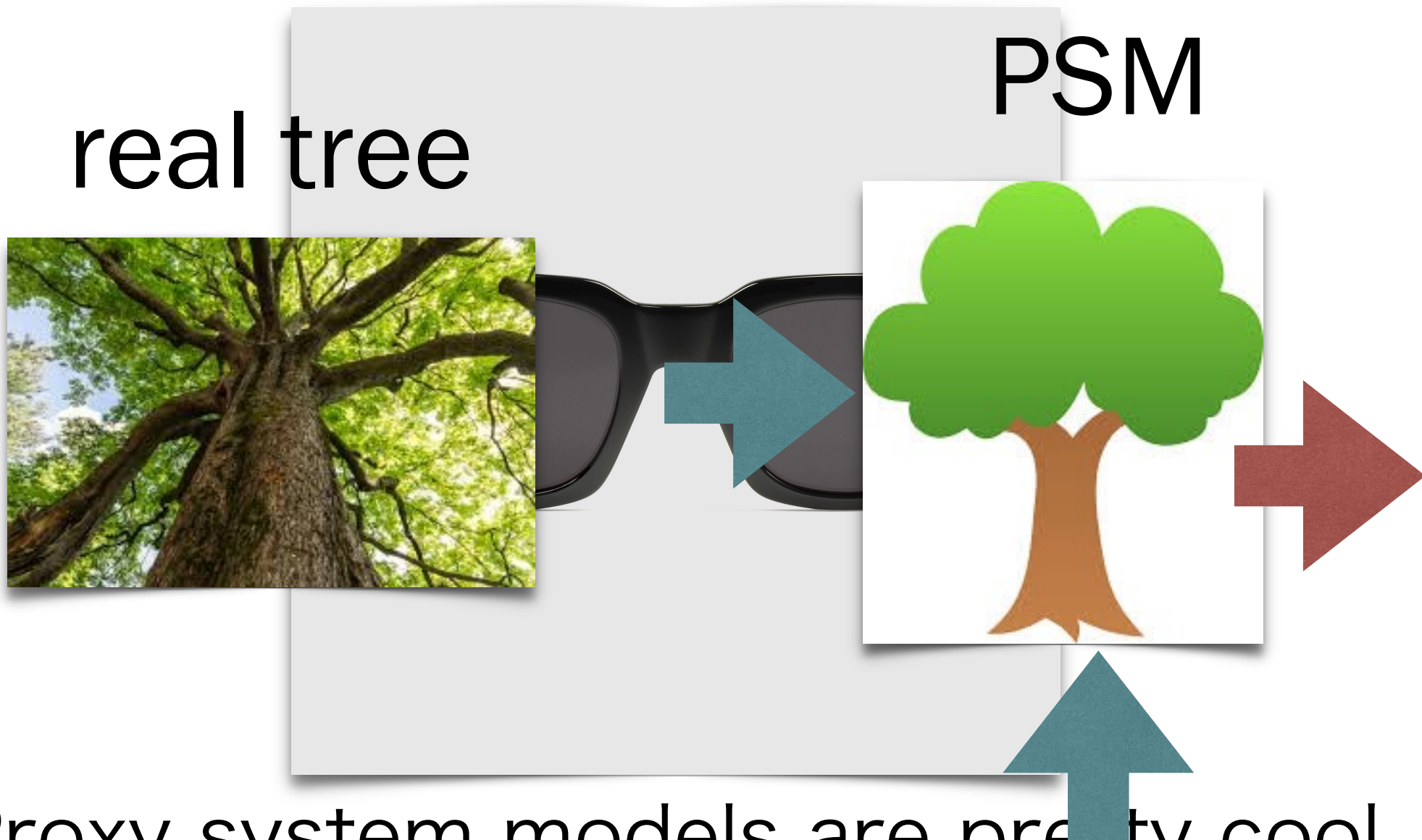
progress, challenges, and applications

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**PAGES2k-PMIP3 Hydroclimate Workshop**  
**// LDEO, NY // June 3rd , 2016**

# What is a Proxy System Model?



Proxy system models are pretty cool.

# A brief outline:

developing best practices for model-data comparison

- **PRoxY System Modeling Progress:**
  - Open-source, public PSM tools: PRYSM v1.0 and 2.0
- **Advanced Applications in Data-Model Comparison:**
  - Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs
  - Investigating parametric uncertainties ~ checking our understanding of the proxy system
  - Data-model comparison in the frequency domain using PSMs

# Building a PSM code package

- Many PSMs are completed or in development
- We need a common model development framework
- Encourage feedback, expand use
- Format/structure for building and comparing PSMs
- **Goals:**
  - Adaptable, modular, and public
  - Consolidate inter-model redundancies
  - Open Source



## ObsPy

A Python Framework for Seismology



## astropy

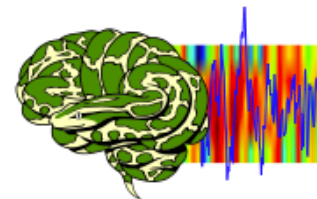
A Community Python Library for Astronomy



## Biopython Project

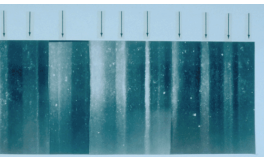
<http://www.biopython.org>

Nitime: time-series analysis  
for neuroscience

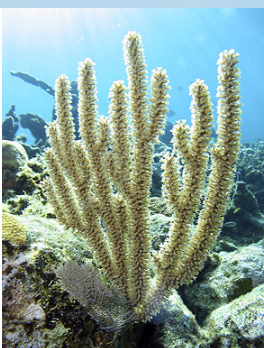


# PRYSM:

a public PSM development platform



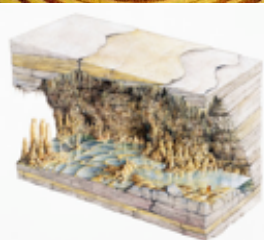
ICE CORES



CORALS

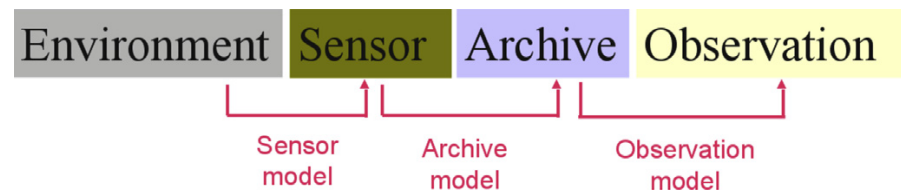


TREE RING  
CELLULOSE

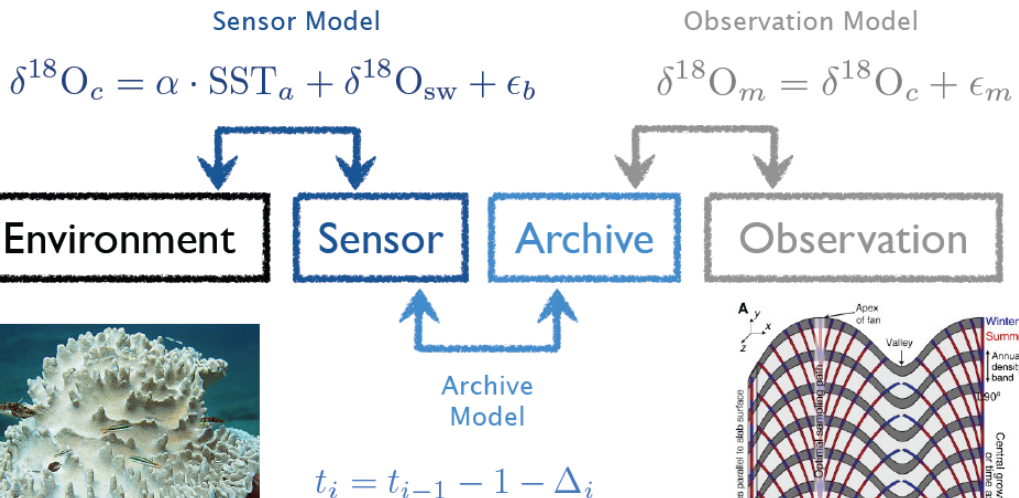


SPELEOTHEMS

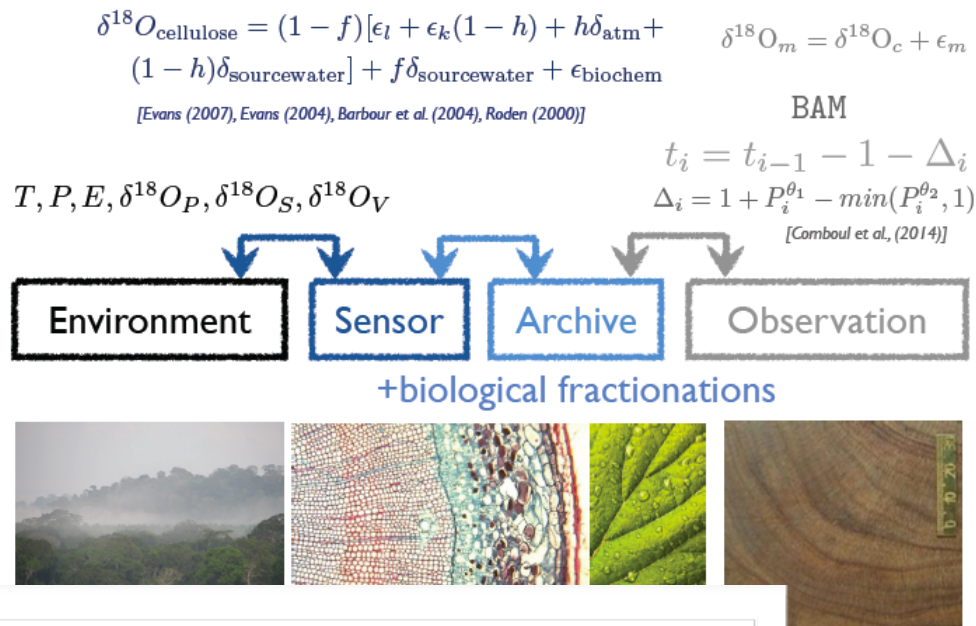
- synthesized from previously published work
- current availability: high-resolution water isotope systems
- enabled by recent water isotope-enabled modeling efforts, SWING2 -> full forward modeling scheme
- Sub-model framework, as in [Evans et al. QSR, 2013]



# Coral Aragonite PSM



# Tree Ring Cellulose PSM

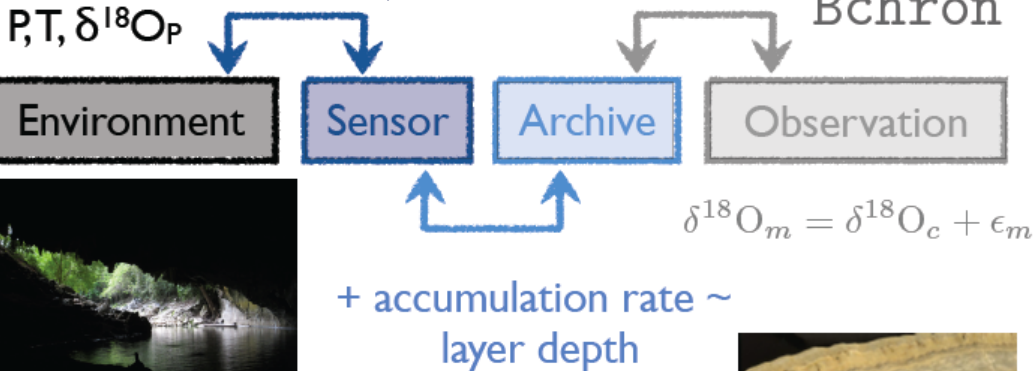


What goes into a proxy system model?

.....  
 Speleotherm

$$f(t) = \delta^{18}O_{calcite} = \sum(p \cdot \delta^{18}O) / \sum p$$

$$g(t) = H(t) \frac{1}{\phi} e^{-t/\tau}, h(t) = g * f$$



Dee et al., 2015, JAMES

$$\delta^{18}O_{ICE} = \sum(p \cdot \delta^{18}O_P) / \sum p + \text{altitude correction}$$

[Vuille et al., 2003]

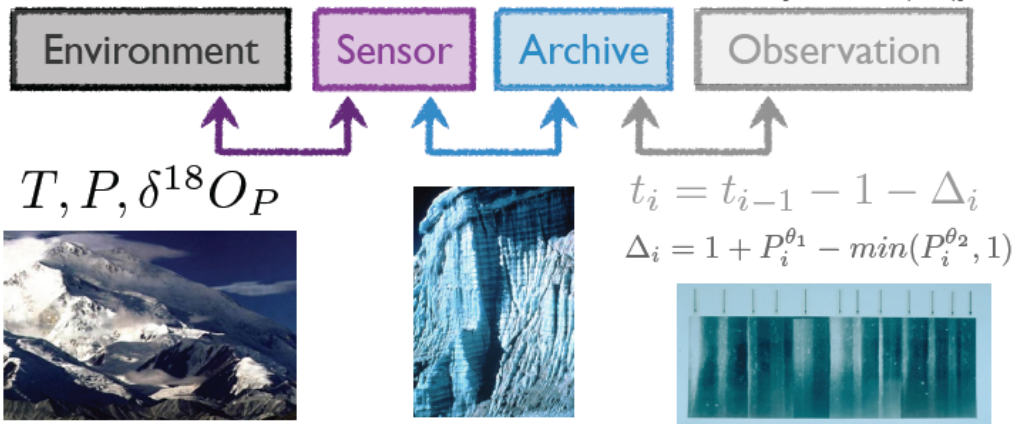
+ compaction, diffusion over depth

$$\delta_{diffused} = G * \delta_{original}$$

$$G = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot e^{-\frac{z^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

[Kuttel et al., 2002]  
 [Cuffey and Steig (1998)]  
 [Whillans & Grootes (1985)]

[Comboul et al., (2014)]



# PRYSM on GitHub & Installation

```
https://github.com/sylvia-dee/PRYSM
```

```
git clone https://github.com/sylvia-dee/PRYSM.git
```

1. Download zipfile
2. In working directory: use Python

```
>> python setup.py install
```

```
>> import psm
```



<> Code

🚩 Issues 0

🔗 Pull requests 0

📊 Pulse

📈 Graphs

HTTPS clone URL

[https://github.com/!](https://github.com/)


You can clone with [HTTPS](#) or [Subversion](#).


Clone in Desktop


Download ZIP

# PRYSM

 sylvia-dee / PRYSM

 Code

 Issues **2**

 Pull requests **1**

 Pulse

 Graphs

Branch: **master** ▾

**PRYSM** / **psm** /



**sylvia-dee** Updated Modification Records ~ SDEE.

..

 **agemodels**

Sync with master'

 **aux\_functions**

Fixed butterworth filter import

 **cellulose**

Sylvia fixed some driver scripts

 **coral**

Update sensor.py

 **icecore**

Updated Modification Records ~ SDEE.

 **speleo**

Updated speleo\_sensor for kernel length problems.

 **\_\_init\_\_.py**

Updated driver scripts

 **\_\_init\_\_.pyc**

Fixed butterworth filter import



sylvia-dee / PRYSM

Code Issues 2 Pull requests 1 Pulse Graphs

Climate Proxy System Modeling Tools in Python, Version 1.0

72 commits 1 branch 0 releases

Branch: master New pull request

sylvia-dee Updated Modification Records ~ SDEE.

examples	Update speleo
paper_figures	Delete Fig3_lo
psm	Updated Modi
README.md	Update READ
setup.py	Added Amir A

icecore\_driver.py  
cellulose\_driver.py  
colal\_driver.py  
speleo\_driver.py

>> these driver scripts walk you through running the PSM sub-models in succession.

you can run files in iPython to execute step-by-step...

```
74 #=====
75 # E3. CALL SENSOR MODEL
76 #=====
77 print 'Running sensor model...'
78 # 4. Apply icecore_sensor to extract precipitation-weighted d18o record for each core
79 # and compute altitude, temperature corrections. (Please see docstring icecore_sensor).
80
81 d180      = deltaP      # your dataset loaded here
82 alt_diff = 3524.0      # alt_diff at location (m) (THIS IS FOR SPEEDY-QUELCCAYA)
83 d180ice   = icecore_sensor(time,d180,alt_diff)
84
85 # returns: icecore
86
87 ..
88
89 #=====
90 # E4. CALL ARCHIVE MODEL
91 #=====
92 print 'Running archive model...'
93 # This archive model will calculate diffusion and compaction
94 # (Please see docstrings: diffusivity, icecore_diffuse)
95
96 # NOTE: tester file has accumulation in meters per year. Below is optional unit conversion.
97
98 #accum=accum*365.0      # multiple by 365 days to get yearly accumulation in mm
99 #b = accum/1000.       # convert mm/yr to m/yr, accumulation rate (e.g. 1.3 m/year)
100
101 b=accum
102 core_length=np.cumsum(b)
103 depth = core_length[-1]
```

```

9  def diffusivity(rho,T=250,P=0.7,rho_d=822,b=0.25):
10
11     '''
12     DOCSTRING: Function 'diffusivity'
13     Description: Calculates diffusivity (in m^2/s) as a function of density.
14
15     Inputs:
16     P: Ambient Pressure in Atm
17     T: Temperature in K
18     rho: density profile (kg/m^3)
19     rho_d: 822 kg/m^2 [default], density at which ice becomes impermeable to diffusion
20
21     Defaults are available for all but rho, so only one argument need be entered.
22
23     Note values for diffusivity in air:
24
25     D16 = 2.1e-5*(T/273.15)^1.94*1/P
26     D18 = D16/1.0285
27     D2  = D16/1.0251
28     D17 = D16/((D16/D18)^0.518)
29
30     Reference: Johnsen et al. (2000): Diffusion of Stable isotopes in polar firn and ice:
31     the isotope effect in firn diffusion
32
33     '''
34     import numpy as np
35     import scipy
36     from scipy import integrate
37     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
38

```

# PRYSM

Perhaps Python is not for you..

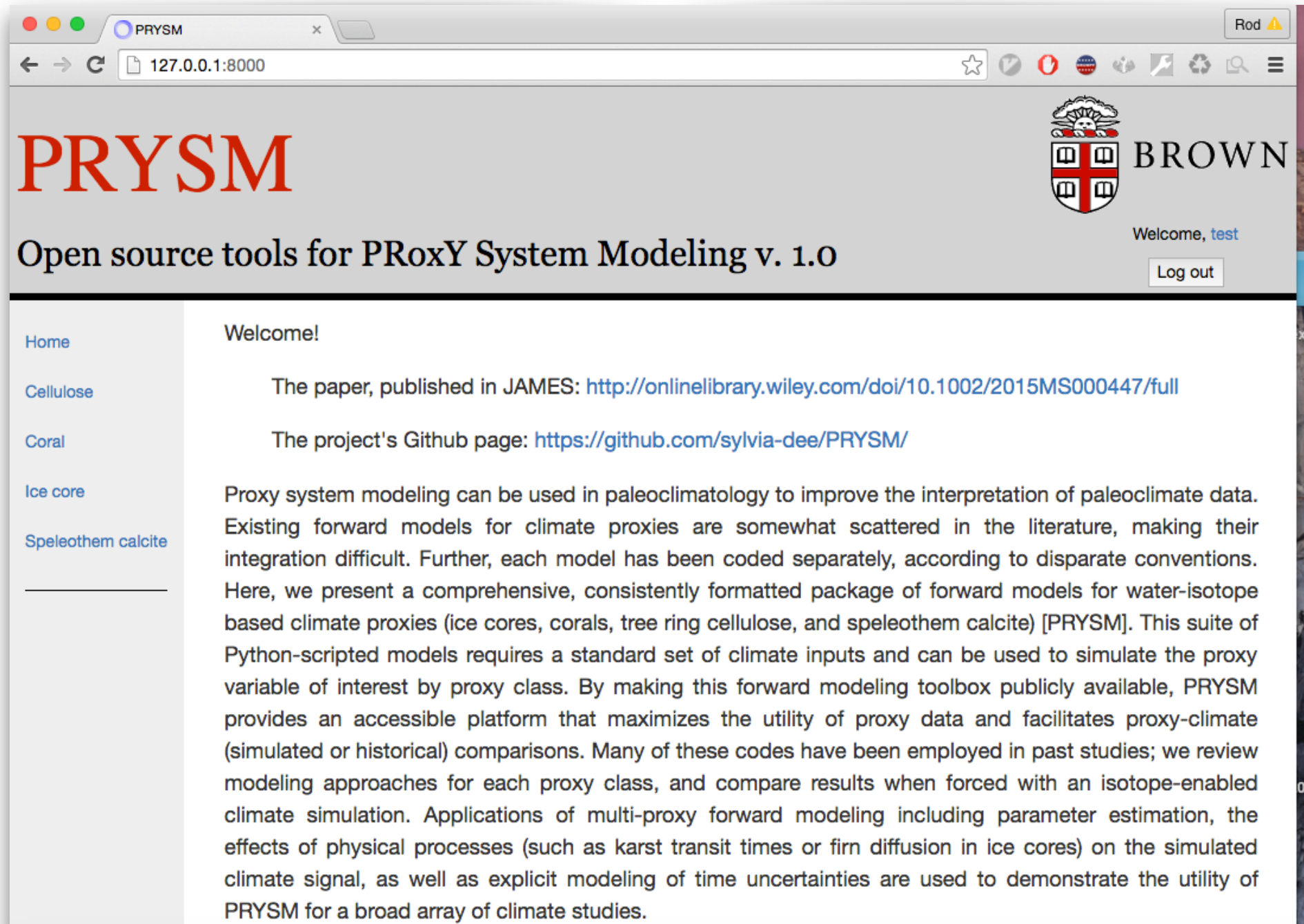




**KEEP  
CALM.  
THERE'S  
AN APP  
FOR THAT**



# PRYSM GUI



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the PRYSM GUI. The browser's address bar shows the URL `127.0.0.1:8000`. The page features the PRYSM logo in red and the Brown University logo on the right. Below the logos, the text reads "Open source tools for PRoxY System Modeling v. 1.0". A navigation menu on the left lists "Home", "Cellulose", "Coral", "Ice core", and "Speleothem calcite". The main content area includes a "Welcome!" message, a link to a paper in JAMES, a link to the project's Github page, and a detailed paragraph about proxy system modeling.

PRYSM

BROWN

Welcome, [test](#)

[Log out](#)

Home

Cellulose

Coral

Ice core

Speleothem calcite

Welcome!

The paper, published in JAMES: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2015MS000447/full>

The project's Github page: <https://github.com/sylvia-dee/PRYSM/>

Proxy system modeling can be used in paleoclimatology to improve the interpretation of paleoclimate data. Existing forward models for climate proxies are somewhat scattered in the literature, making their integration difficult. Further, each model has been coded separately, according to disparate conventions. Here, we present a comprehensive, consistently formatted package of forward models for water-isotope based climate proxies (ice cores, corals, tree ring cellulose, and speleothem calcite) [PRYSM]. This suite of Python-scripted models requires a standard set of climate inputs and can be used to simulate the proxy variable of interest by proxy class. By making this forward modeling toolbox publicly available, PRYSM provides an accessible platform that maximizes the utility of proxy data and facilitates proxy-climate (simulated or historical) comparisons. Many of these codes have been employed in past studies; we review modeling approaches for each proxy class, and compare results when forced with an isotope-enabled climate simulation. Applications of multi-proxy forward modeling including parameter estimation, the effects of physical processes (such as karst transit times or firn diffusion in ice cores) on the simulated climate signal, as well as explicit modeling of time uncertainties are used to demonstrate the utility of PRYSM for a broad array of climate studies.

**You may update any of this data set's attributes:**

Label:

Ice Core Test Data

Latitude:

78.00

Longitude:

1.00

Start Year:

1000

Description (Optional, 500 chars maximum):

Sample Ice Core Data  
Quelccaya

This data set is public:



Public data sets are visible by anyone

Analytical Uncertainty/Measurement Error (default is  $\pm 0.1$  %):

0.10

Age Uncertainty

Asymmetric miscounting? 

Symmetric or Miscounted (default: 0.01):

0.01

**You may update any individual fields by providing a .csv or .npy file:**

Temperature .csv or .npy file:

No file chosen

Accumulation .csv or .npy file:

No file chosen

Depth .csv or .npy file:

No file chosen

Depth Horizons .csv or .npy file:

No file chosen

 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{PRECIPITATION}}$  .csv or .npy file:

No file chosen

# PRYSM



## Ice Core

Welcome, test

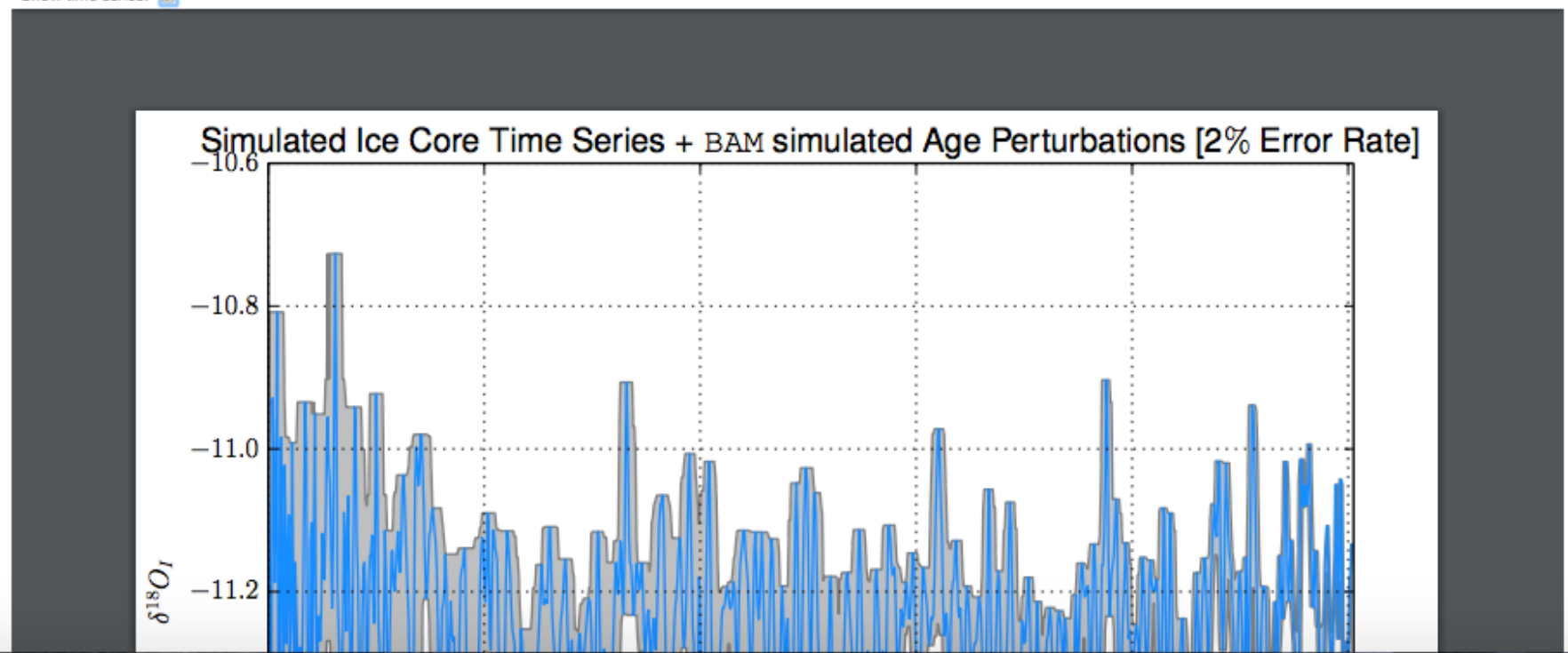
Log out

- Home
- Cellulose
- Coral
- Ice core
- Speleothem calcite

Data set:	Ice Core Test Data
Coordinates:	78.00, 1.00
Time span:	1000 – 2005
Analytical Uncertainty:	0.10
Age Uncertainty:	Symmetric – 0.01
Description:	Sample Ice Core Data Quelccaya
Privacy:	public

Download this data set

Plotting options:  
Show time series:



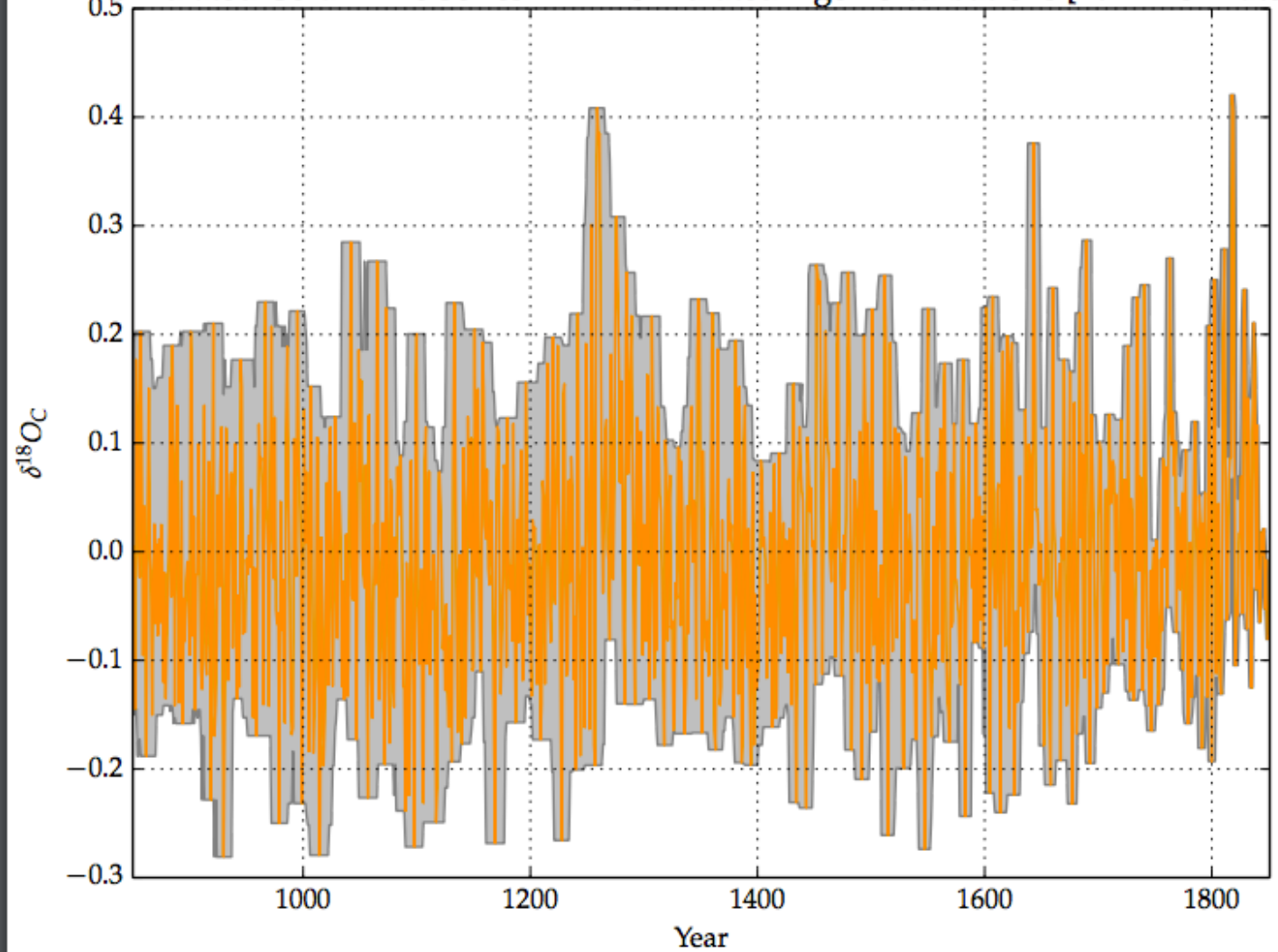


Download this data set

Plotting options:

Show time series:

Simulated Coral Time Series + BAM simulated Age Perturbations [4% Error Rate]



Show power spectrum:

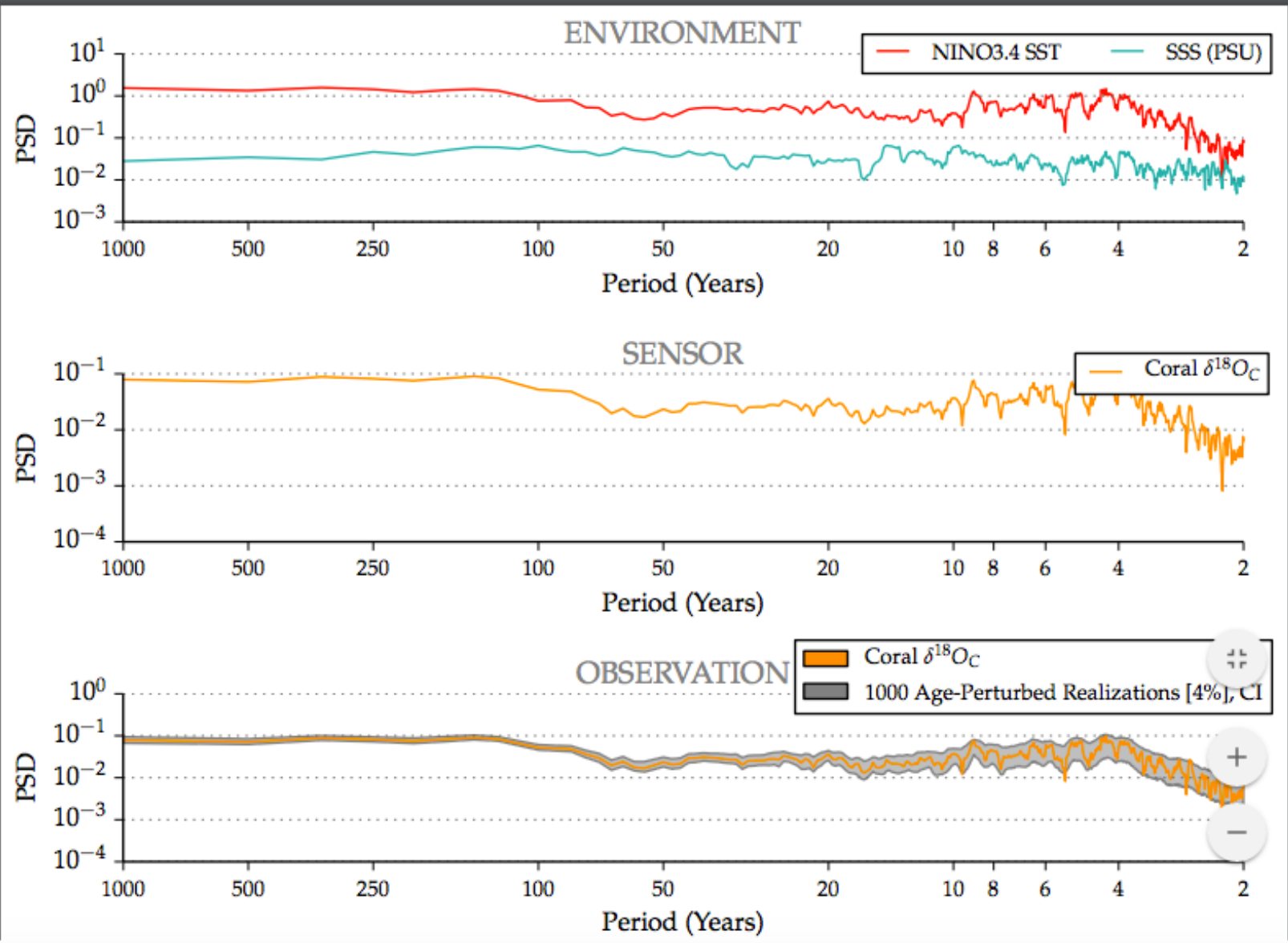
  $\delta^{18}O_C$      1000 Age-Perturbed Realizations, [2.5 97.5 CI]

Show power spectrum:

psd.pdf

1 / 1

Refresh, Download, Print icons



# PRYSM v2.0

## in the works

- marine and lacustrine indicators (e.g. leaf waxes) + bioturbation + compaction
  - Bronwen Konecky & Jess Tierney
- VS-Lite, translated to python
- peat?!?
- discussion:
  - what should this toolbox do in future extensions?
  - what is the most appropriate platform?
  - continuity and funding



# A brief outline:

developing best practices for model-data comparison

- **Proxy System Modeling progress:**
  - Open-source, public PSM tools: PRYSM v1.0
- **Applications in Data Model Comparison**
  - Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs
  - Investigating parametric uncertainties ~ checking our understanding of the proxy system
  - Data-model comparison in the frequency domain using PSMs

# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## Last Millennium Reanalysis Project



# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## Last Millennium Reanalysis Project


**Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres** [Explore this journal >](#)

[Browse Accepted Articles](#)

Accepted, unedited articles published online and citable. The final edited and typeset version of record will appear in future.

Research Article

### **The Last Millennium Climate Reanalysis Project: Framework and First Results<sup>†</sup>**

[Gregory J. Hakim](#) , [Julien Emile-Geay](#), [Eric J. Steig](#), [David Noone](#), [David M. Anderson](#), [Robert Tardif](#),  
[Nathan Steiger](#), [Walter A. Perkins](#)

**Data Assimilation + PSMs to test common assumptions in Paleoclimate:**

- (1) climate proxies can be modeled as linear, univariate recorders of temperature
- (2) structural errors in GCMs can be neglected.

# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

The data assimilation equation:  $x_a = x_b + K[y - \mathcal{H}(x_b)]$

Kalman Gain (weights)

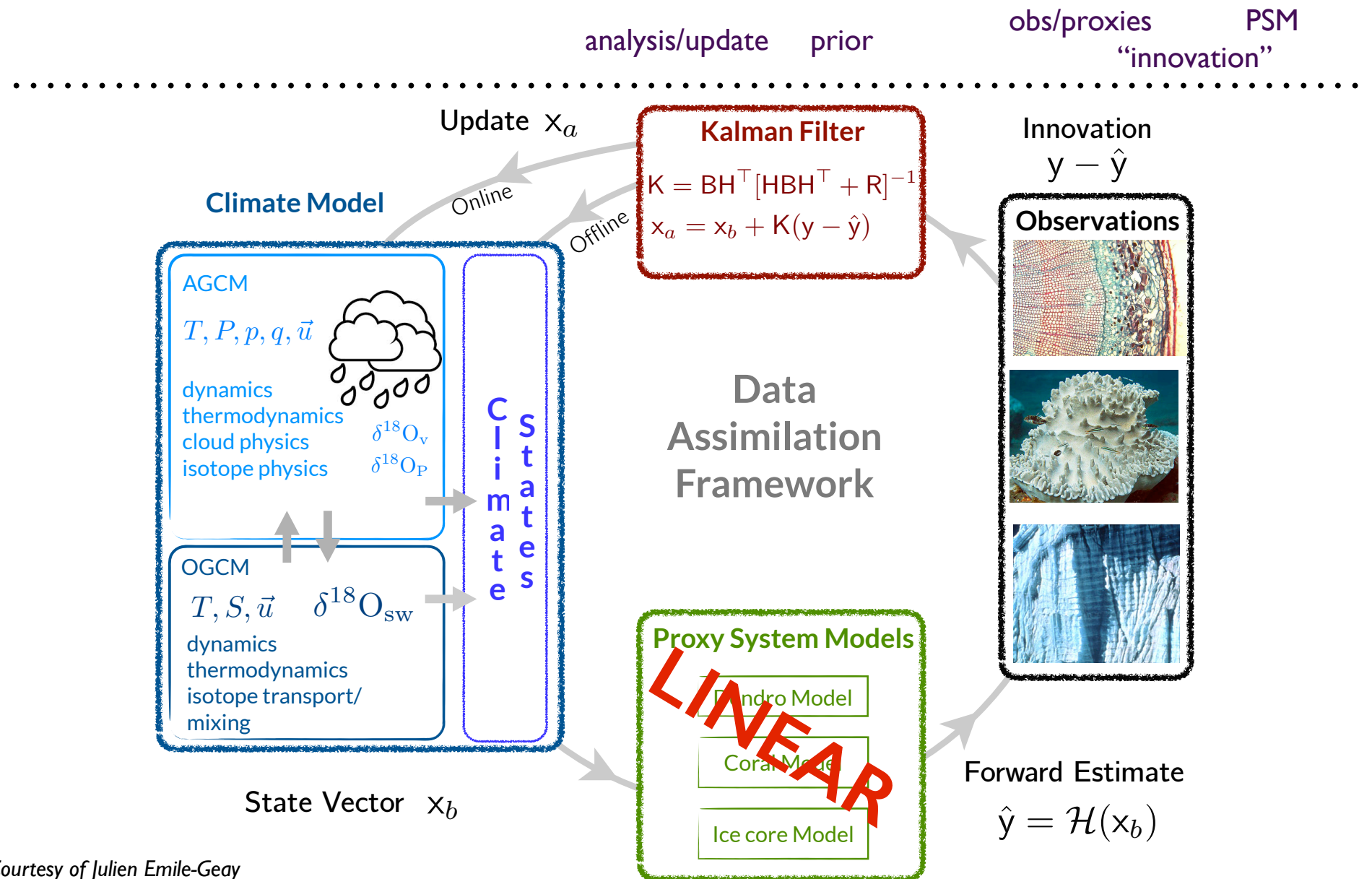


Figure Courtesy of Julien Emile-Geay

# Question (1): Can climate proxies be modeled as linear, univariate recorders of temperature?

Pseudoproxy experiment ~ 'perfect model set' up where all fields are known. Assume pseudoproxies are the REAL proxies.

Two climate field reconstructions:

linearized, univariate mapping [LINEAR-UNIVARIATE-PSM]

nonlinear, 'full' PSM mapping [NONLINEAR\_PSM]

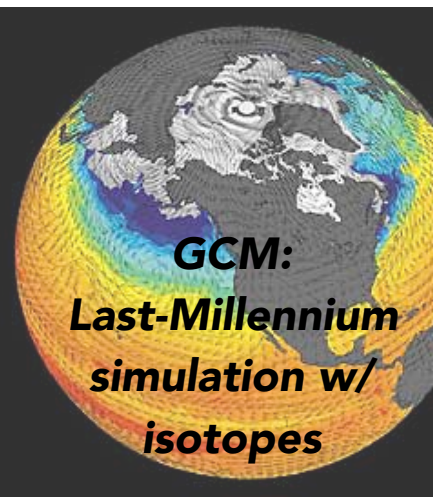
 Tree Ring  Ice Core  Coral



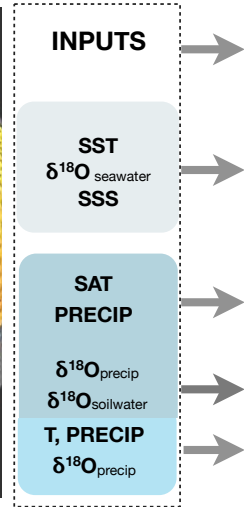


# Experimental Design

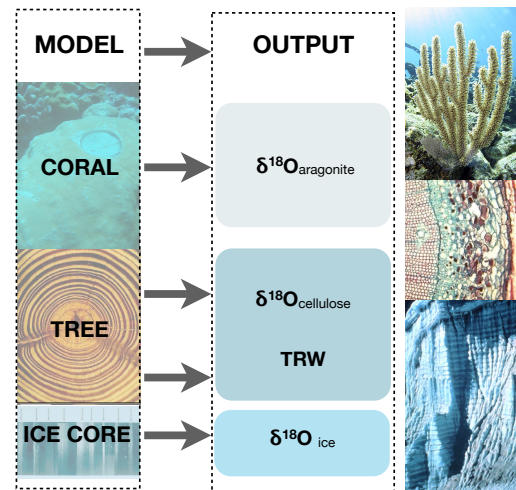
## 1. Known Climate Fields



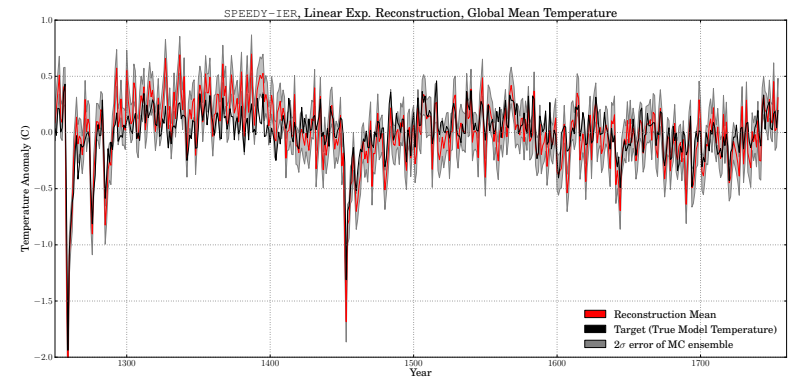
SPEEDY-IER



## 2. Generate 'Pseudo' Proxy Data



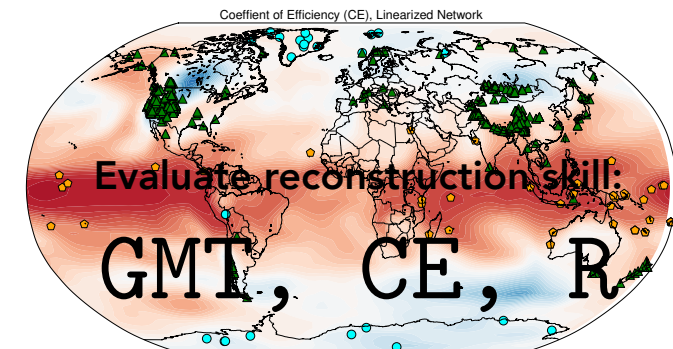
## 3. Reconstruct temperature (DA) for each year using noisy pseudo proxies



## 4. How good is the climate field reconstruction? Compare reconstructed temperature to original, 'true' model temperature (known, unlike in nature!)

REPEAT FOR TWO PSEUDOPROXY EXPERIMENTS

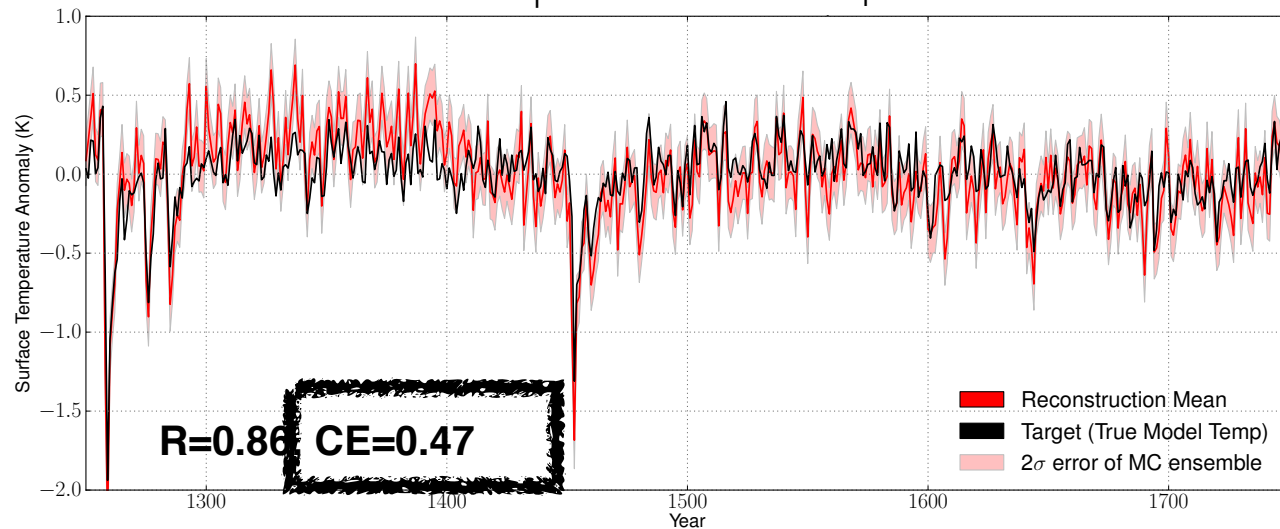
- linearized, univariate mapping [LINEAR PSM]
- nonlinear, 'full' PSM mapping [NONLINEAR PSM]



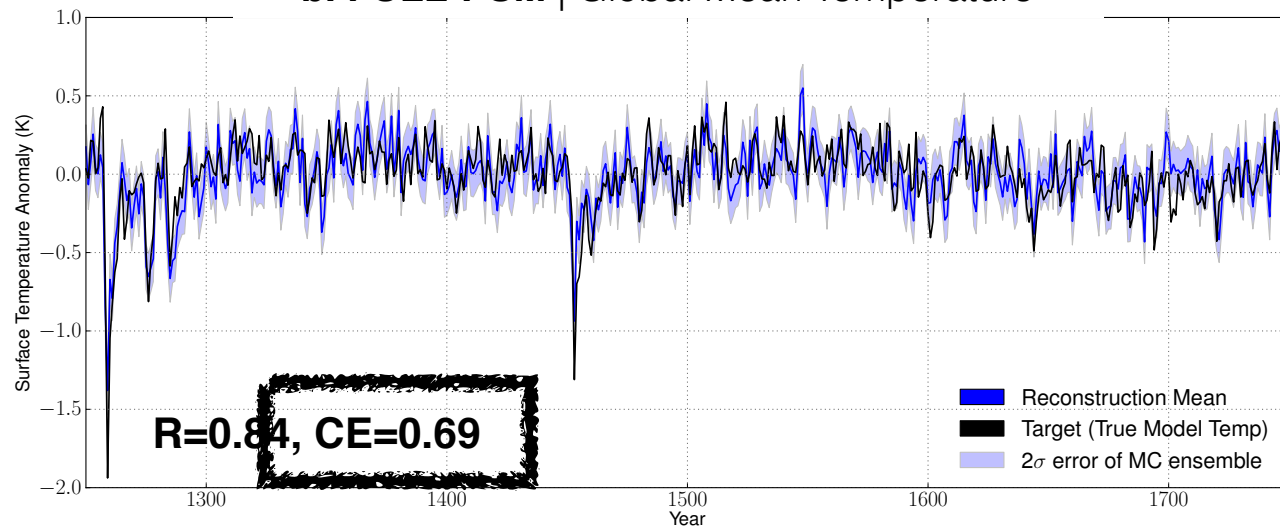
# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## Results 1: Linear, Univariate Models:

a. LU-PSM | Global Mean Temperature



b. FULL-PSM | Global Mean Temperature

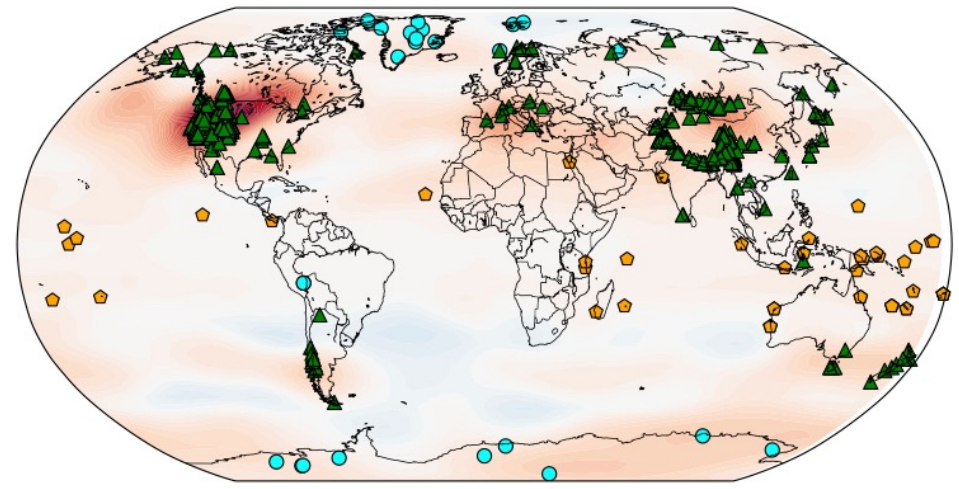
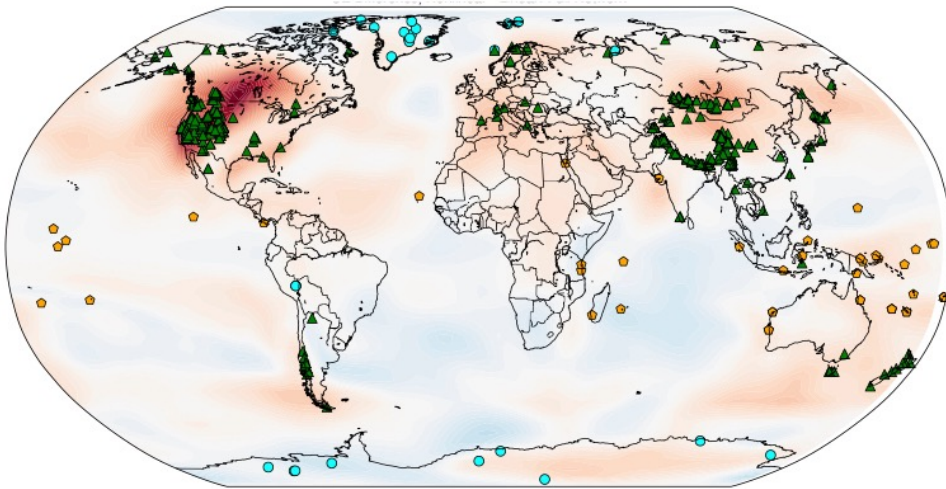


# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

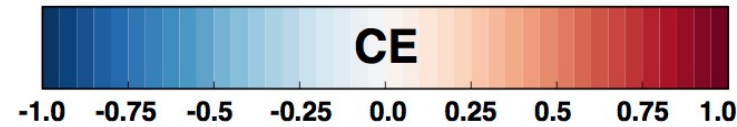
## a. Difference in skill: ALL PROXIES

(Surface Temperature)

(Z<sub>500</sub>)



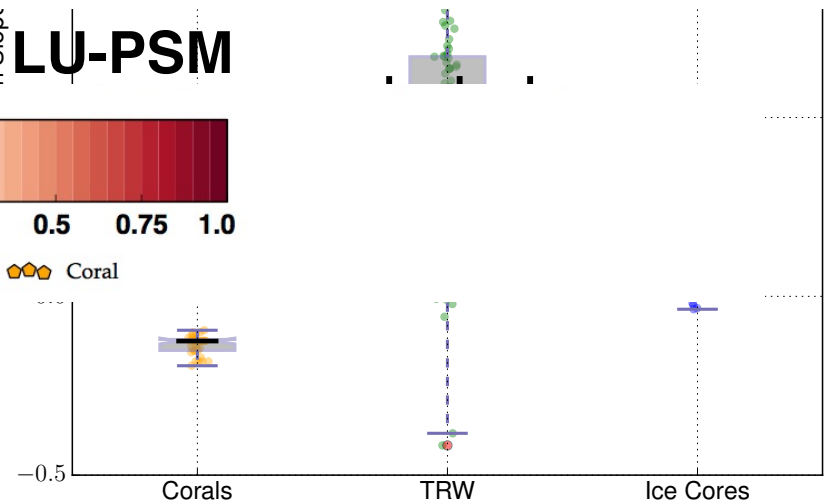
FULL-PSM minus LU-PSM



▲▲ Tree Ring    ●● Ice Core    ◆◆ Coral

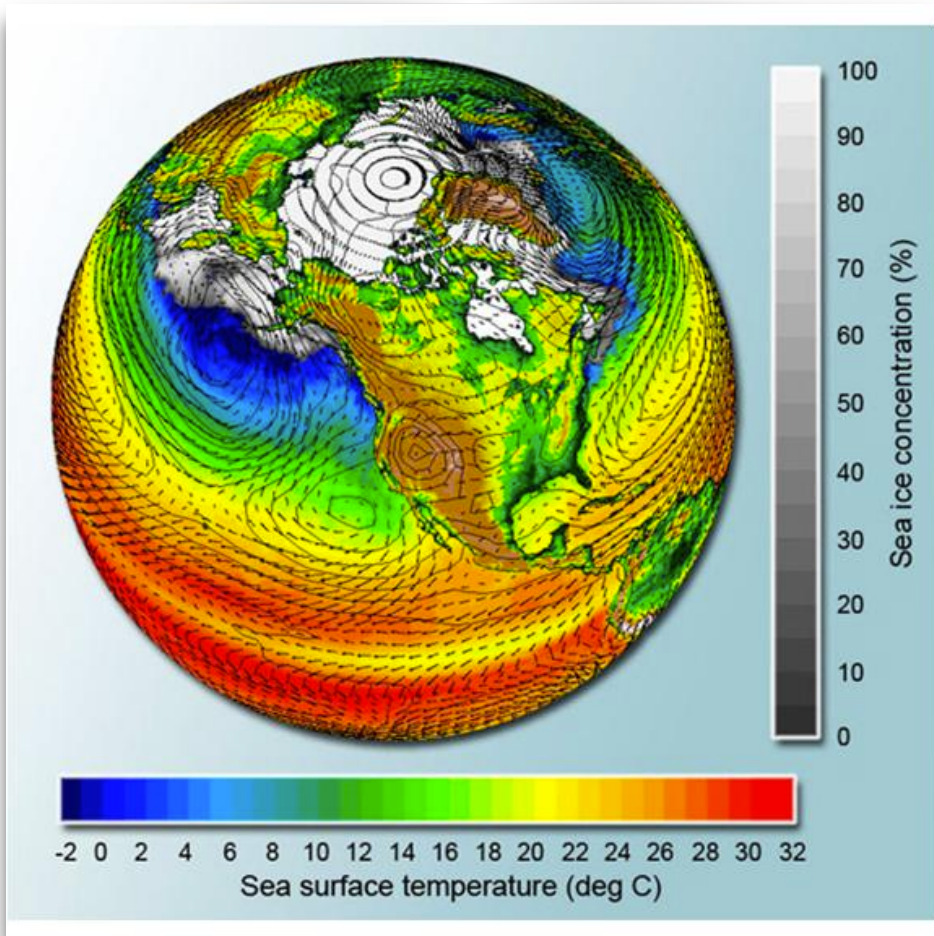


▲▲ Tree Ring    ●● Ice Core    ◆◆ Coral

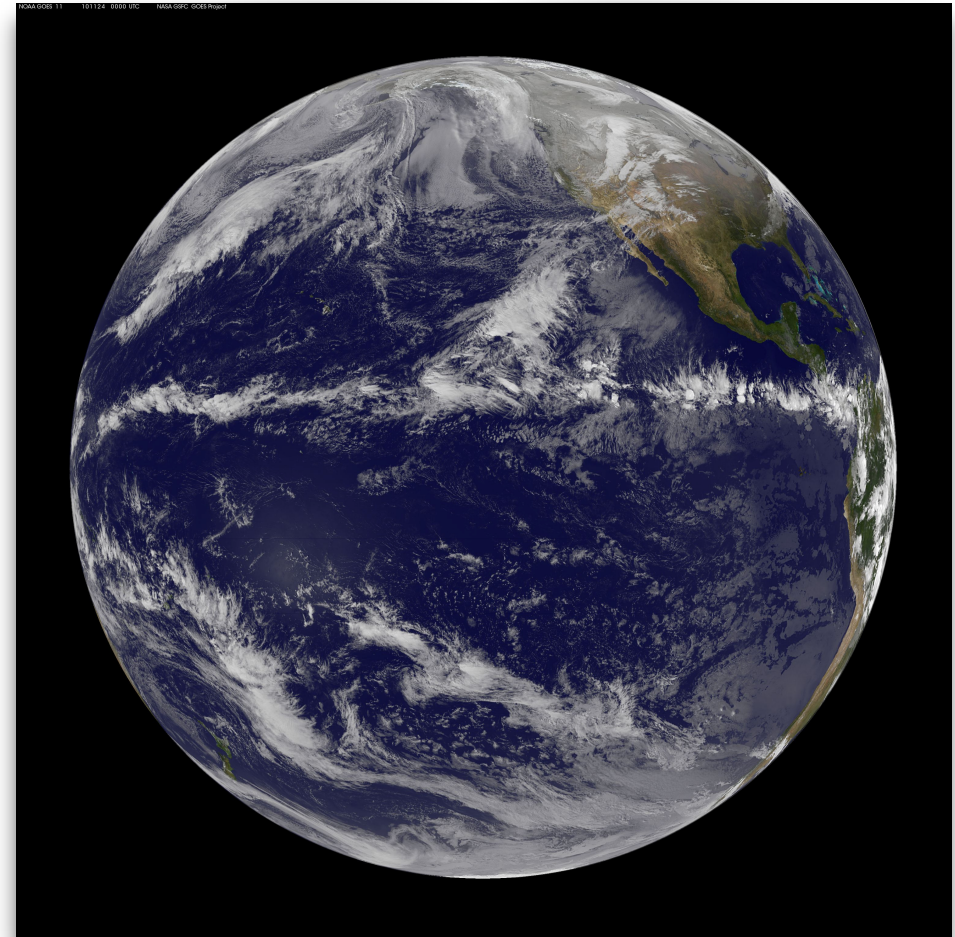


# Question (2): what is the impact of GCM structural errors?

GCMs: biased



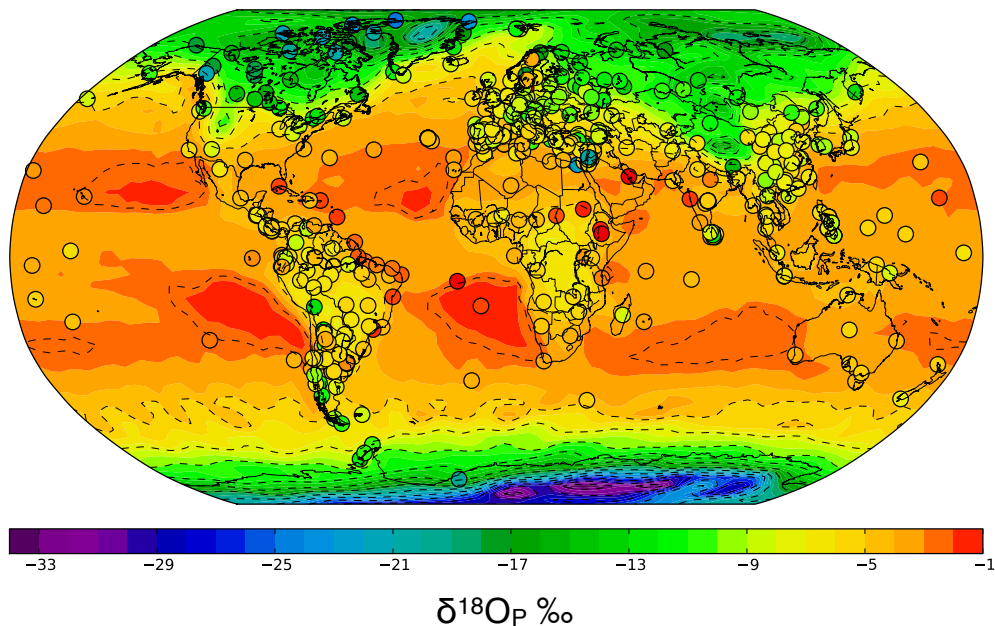
Reality: “unbiased”



GCMs are an imperfect representation of nature, and house errors

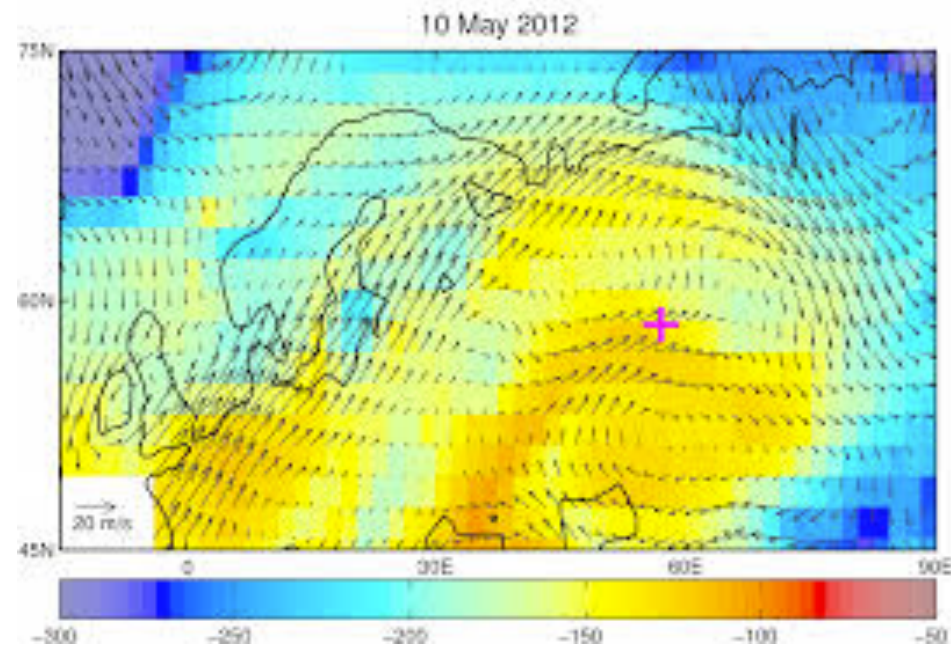
# Question (2): what is the impact of GCM structural errors?

SPEEDY-IER ~ GCMs



≠

ECHAM5-wiso ~ Reality



We use ECHAM5 to approximate 'nature,' and try to reconstruct climate using ECHAM5-generated proxies with a SPEEDY prior.

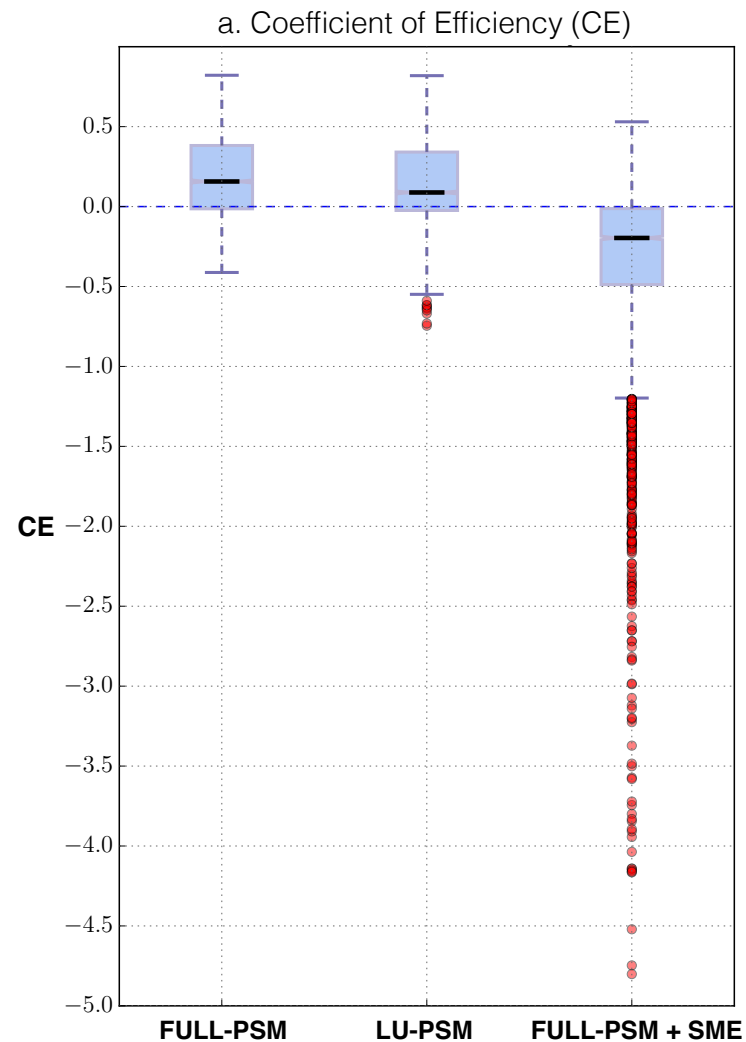
# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## Results 2: Structural Uncertainties in GCMs

Despite the improvement using FULL-PSM, errors in GCMs propagate forward through PSMs and may reduce reconstruction skill.

(Not true for LU-PSM, which is calibrated to the 'true' model state).

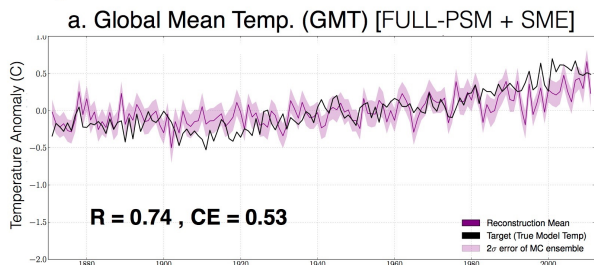
Comparison of Skill Scores:  
Surface Temperature



*Dee, Steiger, Emile-Geay,  
Hakim, revised, JAMES*

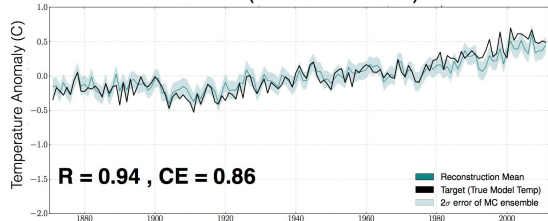
# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## Reconstruction Skill with Imposed Structural Model Error: SPEEDY-IER vs. ECHAM5-wiso (nature)



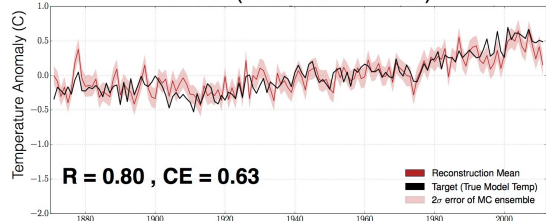
[EXP1: LU BIASCORR]

b. GMT (LU BIASCORR)

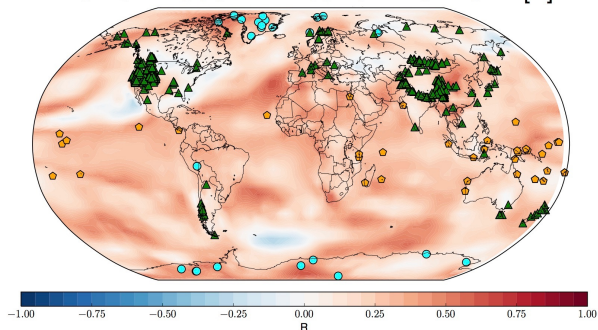


[EXP2: GCM BIASCORR]

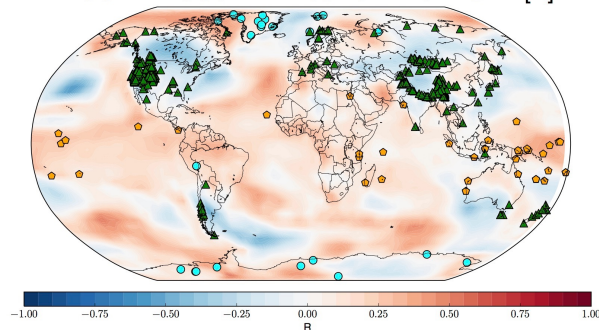
e. GMT(GCM BIASCORR)



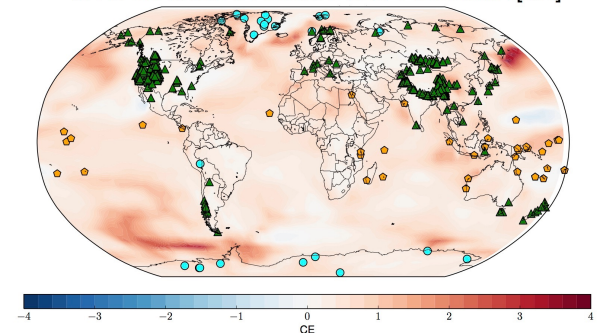
c. LU-BIASCORR minus FULL-PSM+SME [R]



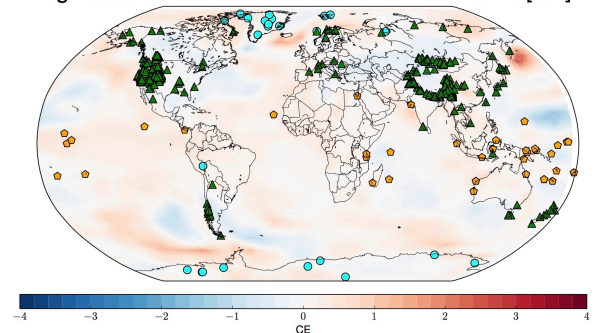
f. GCM-BIASCORR minus FULL-PSM+SME [R]



d. LU-BIASCORR minus FULL-PSM+SME [CE]



g. GCM-BIASCORR minus FULL-PSM+SME [CE]



## 2: Structural Uncertainties

Despite the improvement using FULL-PSM, errors in GCMs propagate forward through PSMs and may reduce reconstruction skill. (Not true for LU-PSM, which is calibrated to the 'true' model state).

Two mitigating strategies:

1. Back to Linear Calibration
2. Bias Correct the GCM

# Applications 1: Data Assimilation and Paleoclimate Reanalyses with PSMs

## \* **The utility of PSMs for Data-Assimilation Based Reconstruction Techniques:**

- *PSMs provide a physically-based estimate from GCMs to compare with observations.*
  - *Skill added using nonlinear models increases with increasing proxy sensitivity to variables other than temperature.*
  - *Structural uncertainties, which may prove prohibitive for using PSMs with DA and systematically reduce reconstruction skill, may be mitigated by bias-correcting GCMs*
- It: need to repeat analysis with multiple isotope-enabled GCMs!*

LM-ISO-MIP?



Follow up questions: what is the fall out if our models for how proxies work are slightly wrong? (PSM parameter uncertainties)

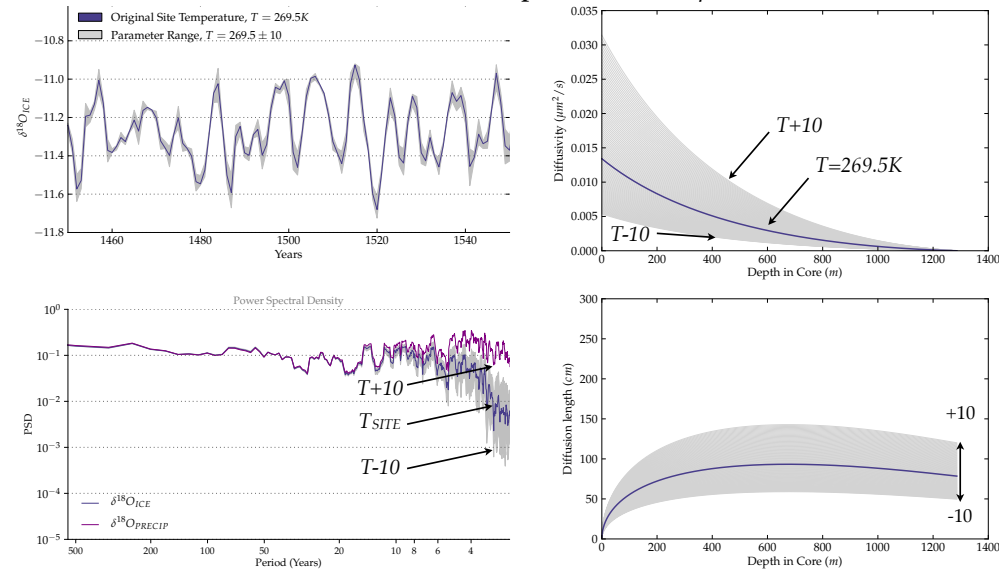


# Applications 2: Investigating PSM Parametric Uncertainties

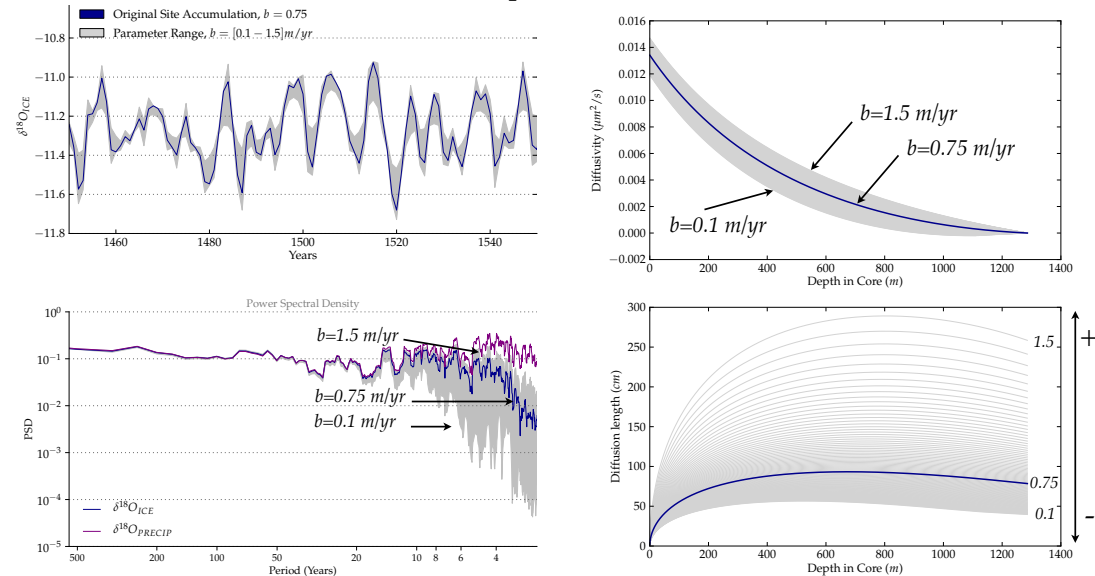
- checking our understanding of the proxy system

☀ Parametric uncertainties exist in our representation of proxy systems; we can use PSMs to constrain these uncertainties.

Ice Core Parameter Experiment 1: Temperature



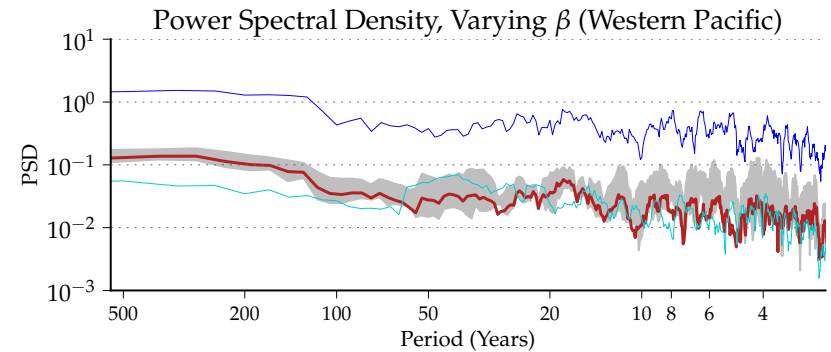
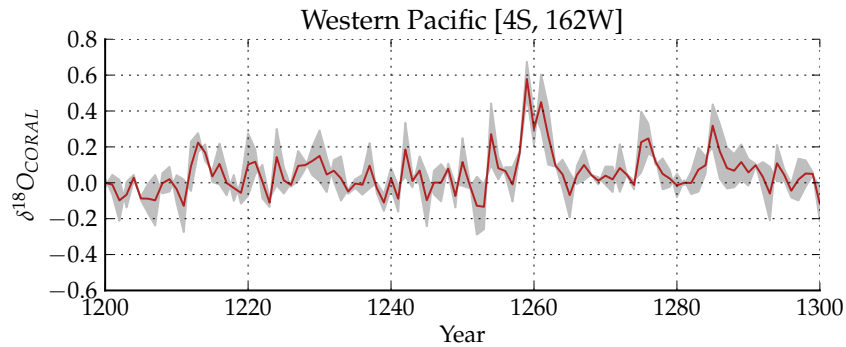
Ice Core Parameter Experiment 2: Accumulation Rate



WHAT IS THE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH CLIMATE INPUT TO THE FINAL SIGNAL?

# Applications 2: Investigating PSM Parametric Uncertainties

Coral Parameter Uncertainty Space, Varying  $\beta$ ,  $C = \alpha \cdot \text{SSTA} + \beta \cdot \text{SSSA}$  (Input = CCSM4 LM)

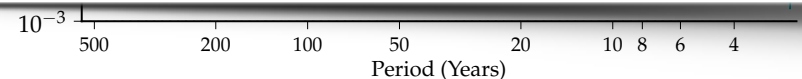


PSMs allow us to:

- ✿ evaluate the contribution of each input climate variable (and its variability) on the final measured signal
- ✿ quantify uncertainties in signal interpretation



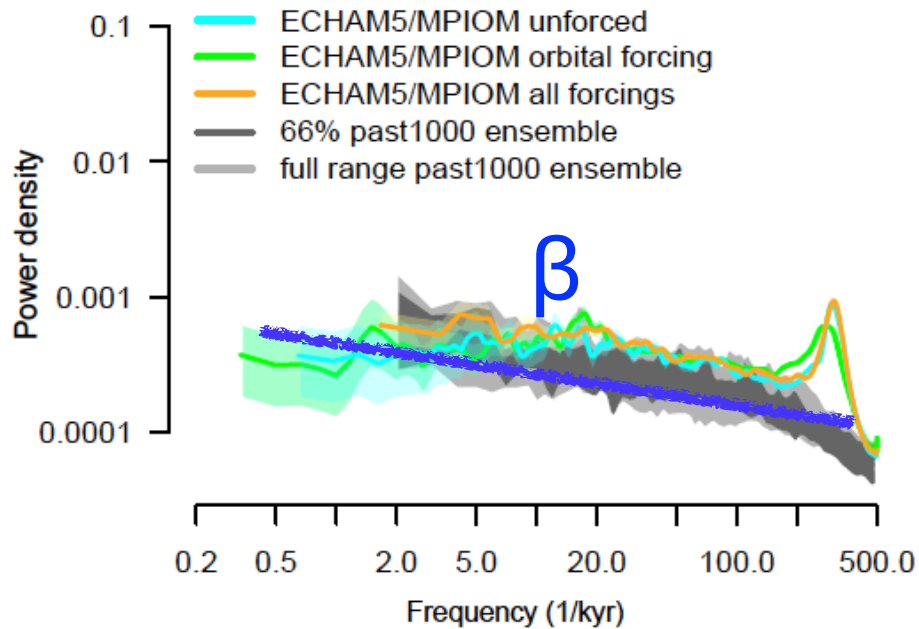
Related: how do proxy system processes affect the **spectrum of variability** observed in paleoclimate data?



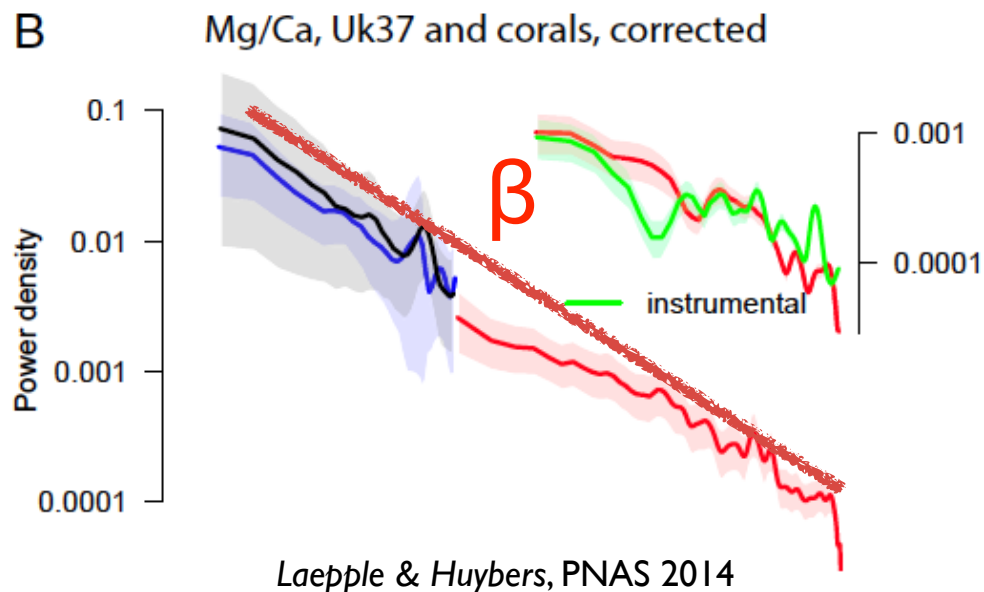
■  $\beta = \text{Baseline Values}$     
  Error Range,  $\beta = 0 || \beta = 200\% * \beta$

—  $\delta^{18}O_C$     
 — SST    
 — SSS

# Applications 3: Enhanced Data-Model Comparison with PSMs



- Data-model comparison in the frequency domain (building on Thomas Laepple, Toby Ault's work, but from the forward direction). [see Laepple & Huybers, PNAS 2014, Ault et al., 2013]

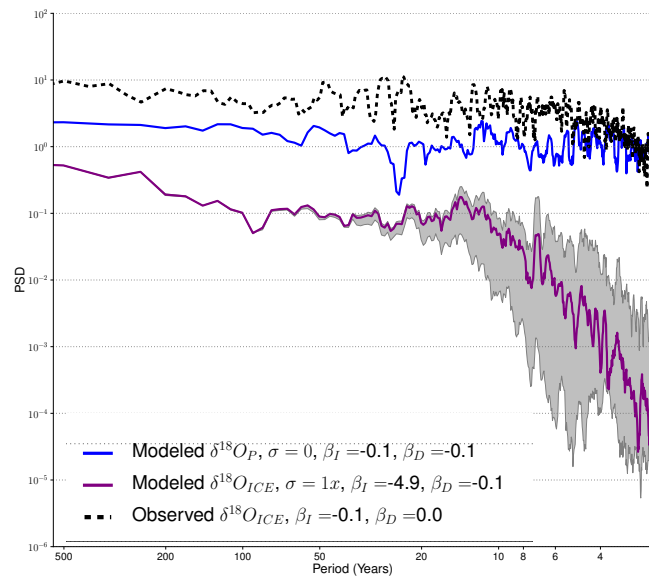


How does this comparison change when GCM simulated climate fields are converted to proxy units using PSMs?

# Applications 3: Enhanced Data-Model Comparison with PSMs

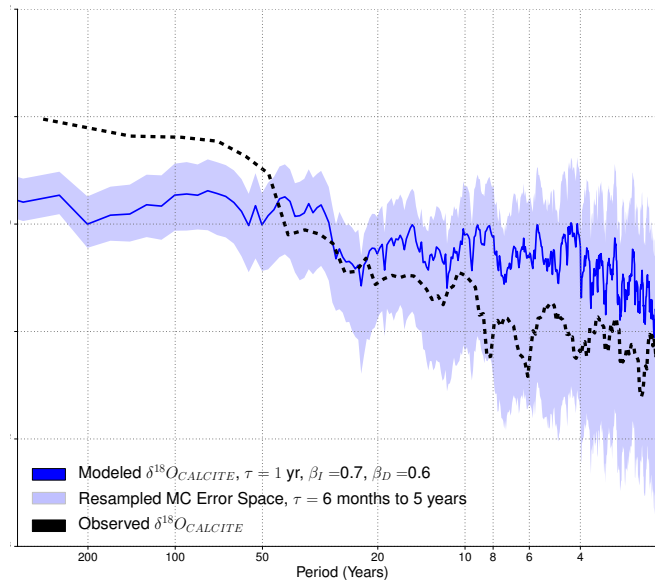
What processes *inherent to the proxy system itself* can alter its power spectrum?

SPEEDY-IER [1000-2005] + Ice Core PSM at NGRIP: Effects of Diffusion on  $\beta$



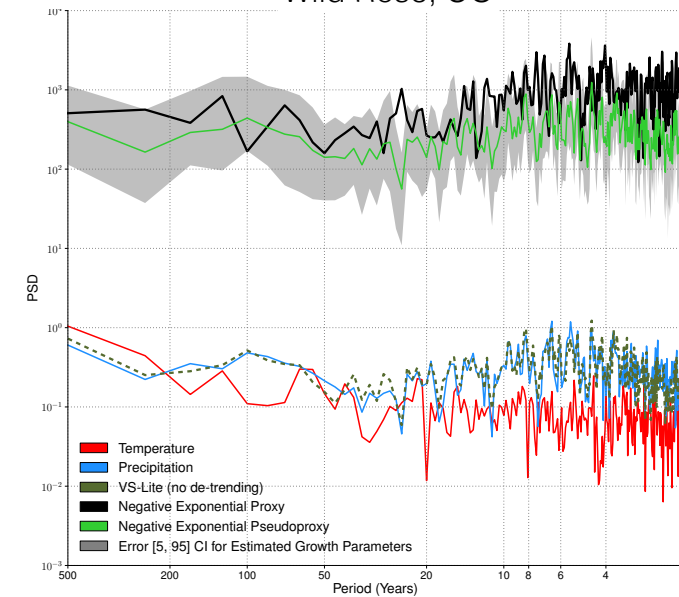
**Ice Cores:** Diffusion and Compaction

Resampling/Error Space:  $\tau = 6$  months to 5 Years



**Speleothems:** Groundwater Residence Time

Wild Rose, CO

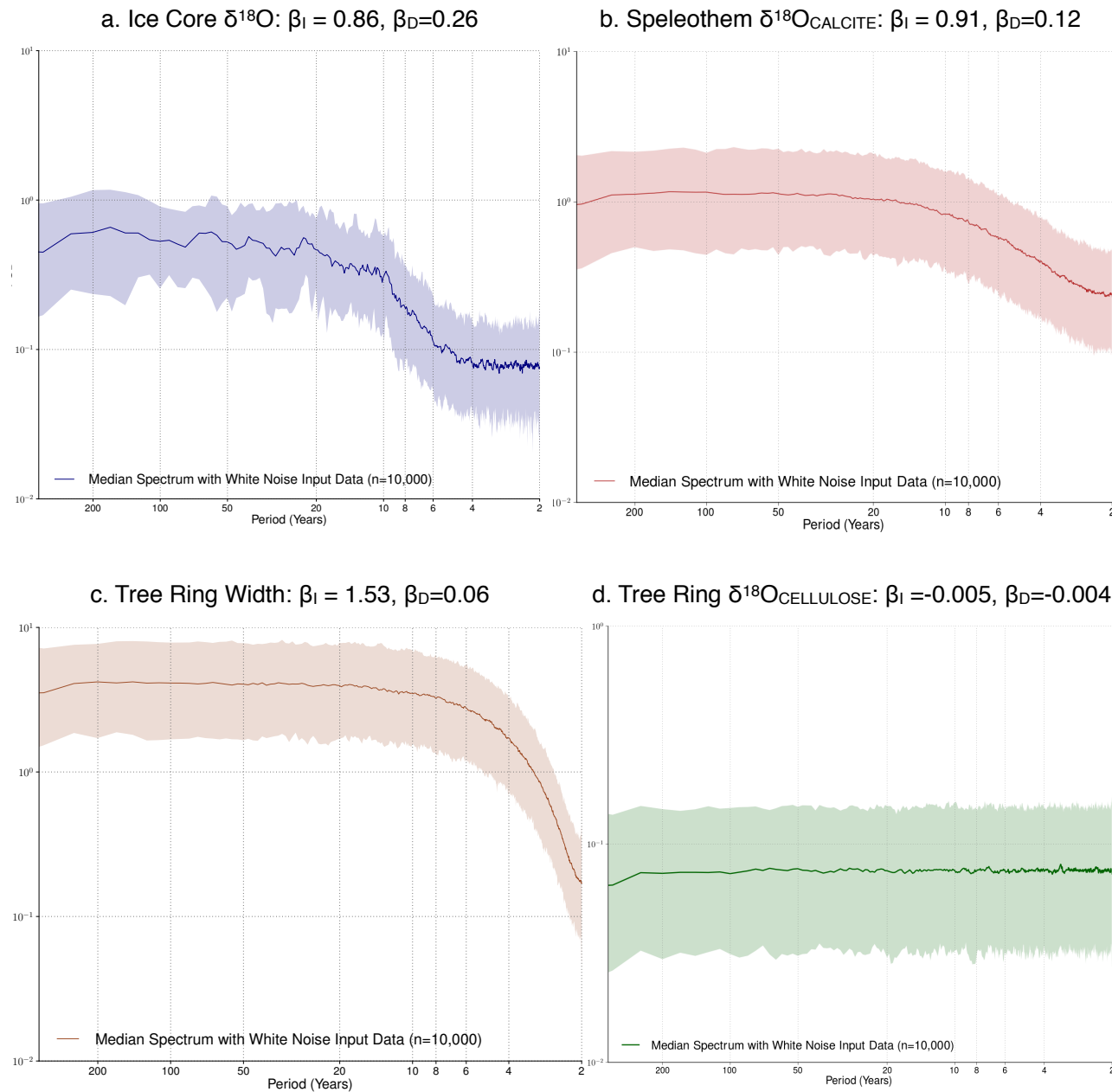


**TRW:** soil moisture and detrending method

*Processes such as diffusion, karst water storage, soil moisture seasonality/ memory and detrending all have an impact on the proxies' power spectra.*

# Applications 3: Enhanced Data-Model Comparison with PSMs

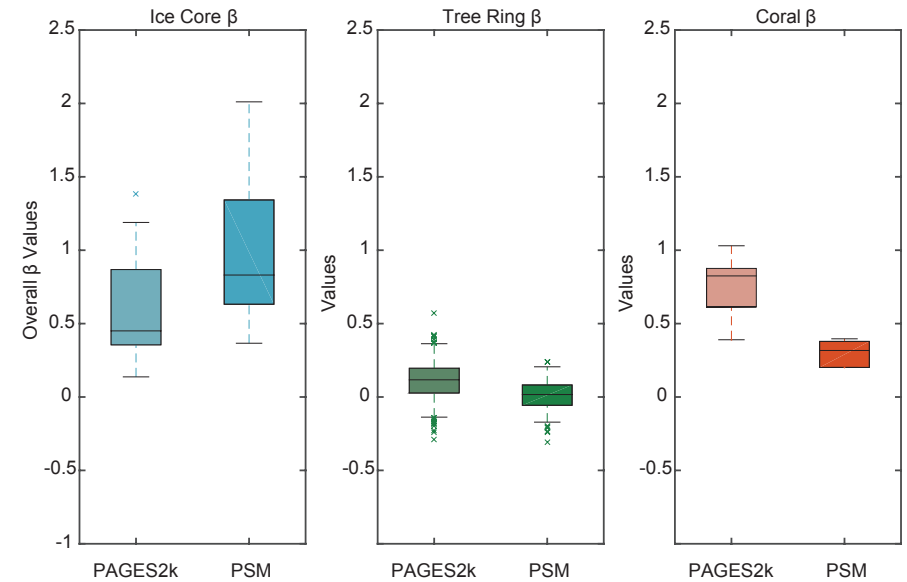
## “Spectral Fingerprints” By Proxy Type



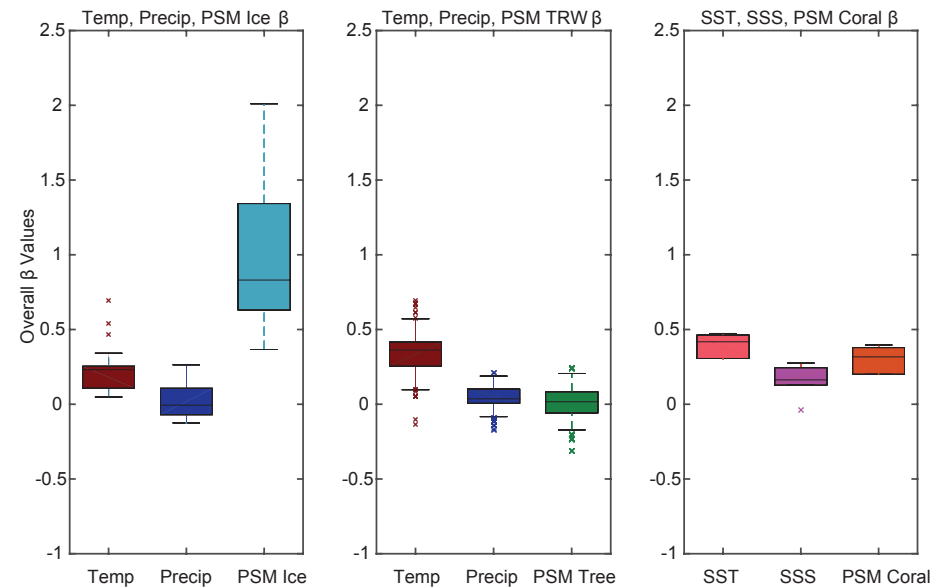
# Applications 3: Enhanced Data-Model Comparison with PSMs

**Bottom Line:**  
converting climate  
model output to proxy  
units helps us compare  
models and data in a  
more meaningful way.

a. Proxy vs. PSM



b. GCM vs. PSM

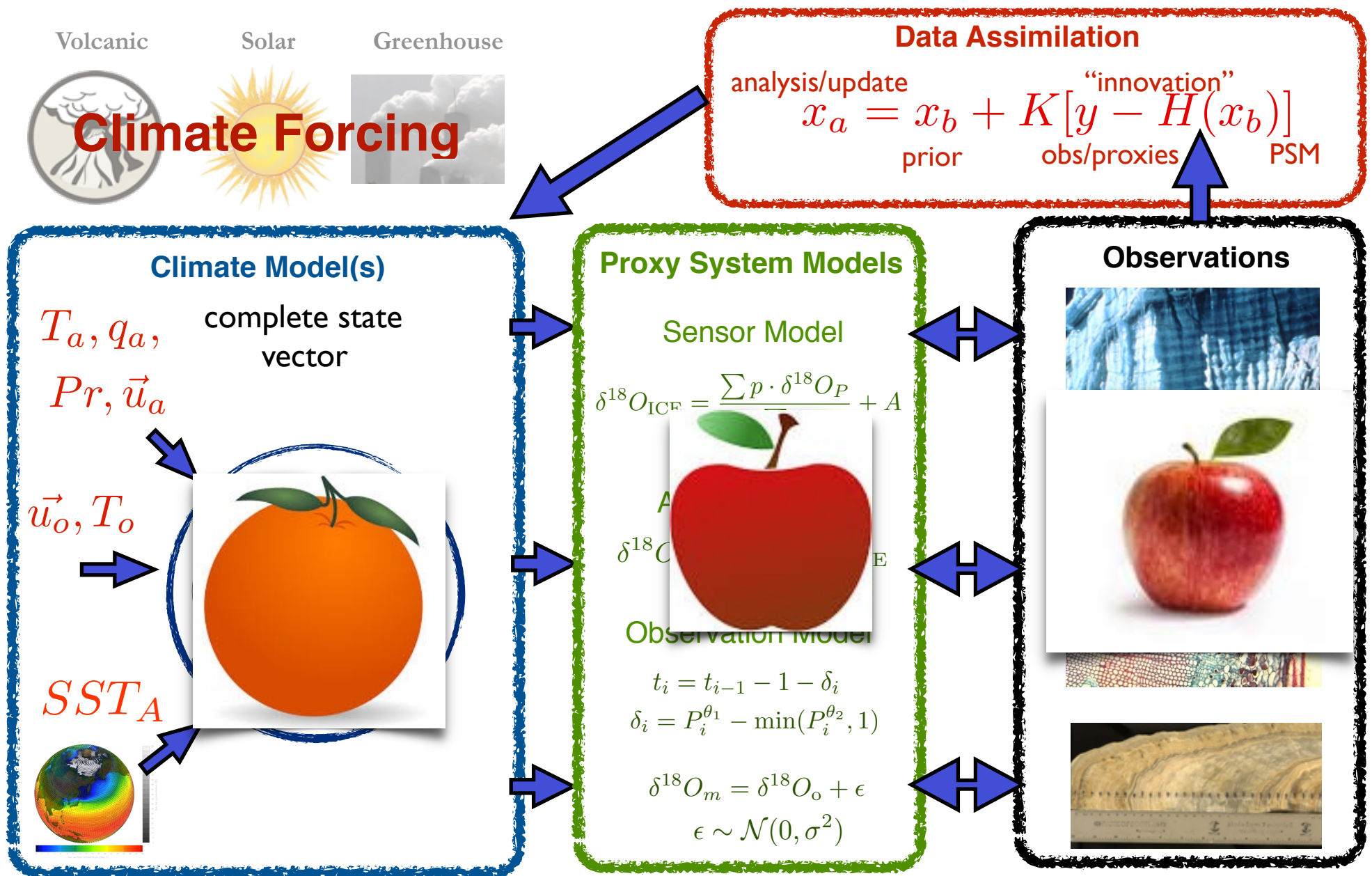


# Discussion Points: **Challenges** in Proxy System Modeling

- ✿ Complexity and design choices:
  - ✿ How 'fancy' does the model have to be to be realistic and yield valuable insight?
  - ✿ How do these fanciness choices differ across:
    - ✿ proxy types
    - ✿ location / regional vs. global scale (tropical vs. mid-lat vs. high lat)
    - ✿ resolution in time and space
- ✿ Compatibility with instrumental data and GCM output (PSM inputs)
- ✿ **>> PSM session at AGU** (w/Bronwen Konecky and Corinne Wong):  
“Advances in proxy system modeling and data-model comparison” (PP)

# A Formal Data-Model Comparison Strategy

## Forward Climate-to-Proxy Modeling GCM + PSM





# Thank you!



Coauthors ~ **Data Assimilation w/PSMs:**

Nathan Steiger, Julien Emile-Geay, Greg Hakim



Coauthors ~ **Data-Model Comparison with**

**PSMs:** Luke Parsons, Garrison Loope,  
Toby Ault, Jonathan Overpeck



BROWN

# Future Work: PSM Applications

- Improved paleoclimate signal interpretation
- Tracking external forcing from climate to proxy
- Sensor Placement
- Categorizing extremes in hydroclimate variability

## How does this proxy work?

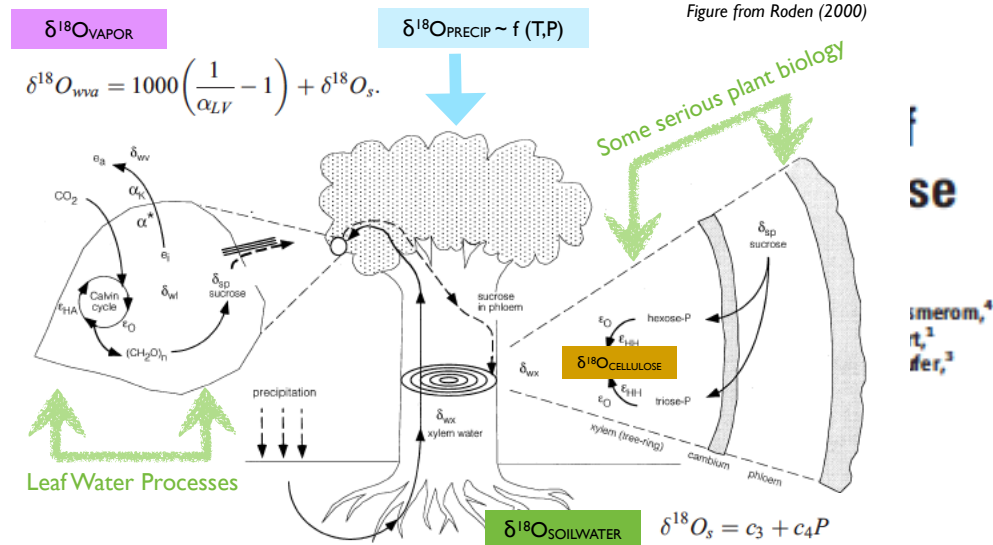


Fig. 1. A diagram of the isotopic fractionation events occurring between precipitation input and tree-ring cellulose.

[Evans (2007), Evans (2004), Barbour et al. (2004), Roden (2000)]

